GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:492
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
CLEANING OF GANGA IN BIHAR .
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ganga river flowing through Bihar has become highly polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor: and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clean the Ganga river in Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) According to water quality monitoring reports, Ganga in the stretch of Bihar is not polluted. The extent of pollution in the stretch of Bihar with respect to pollution parameters namely, Dissolved Oxygen(DO) and Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand(BOD) in the years 1986 and 2001 during critical periods of summer was measured as follows:

S.No.	Location	DO(mg/l)	BOD(mg/l)	DO(mg/l)	BOD(mg/l)
		1986		2001	
1.	Buxar	7.7	1.8	7.4	2.2
2.	Patna	8.1	2.2	7.7	2.4
3.	Rajmahal	7.8	1.8	7.7	1.5

The desired standards fixed by the Central Pollution Control Board for the river for these two parameters are BOD as 3 mg/l (maximum) and DO as 5 mg/l (minimum) respectively.

(c) In order to divert the municipal sewage from large towns from discharging into the river, the Ganga Action Plan has been taken up in Bihar in two phases. Under the phase-I started in 1985, a total 118 million litres per day of sewage out of about 135 million litres per day targeted has been tackled. Under GAP phase-II, about 39 million litres per day of sewage is proposed to be tackled.The Ganga river can be expected to be pollution free only after the GAP phase-II is completed in 2005.